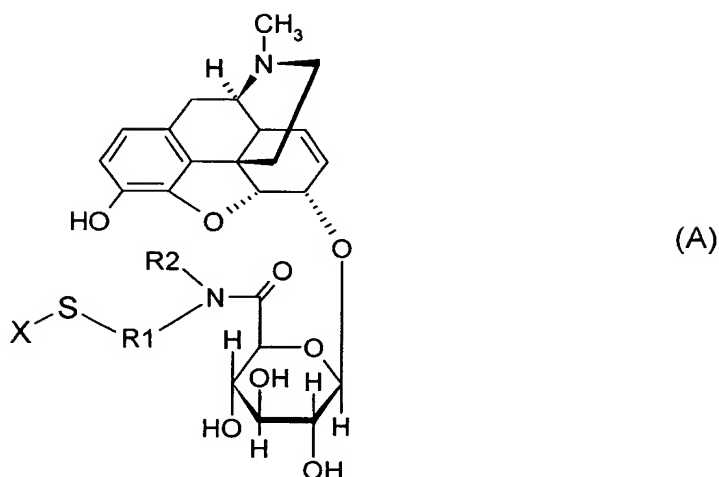


CLAIMS

1. Compound of formula (A):



- 5 in which:

- all of the above entity, with the exception of the substituent X, is called M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S-

- R₁ represents a linear or branched C₁-C₁₀ alkyl group, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, the alkyl chain being optionally interrupted by one or more heteroatoms chosen from O, S and N;

- R₂ represents hydrogen, a linear or branched C₁-C₅ alkyl group or an aryl, heteroaryl or (C₁-C₅) alkylaryl group, unsubstituted or substituted by a C₁-C₄ alkyl;

- X represents hydrogen, an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue or a polymer linked with the rest of the entity by a spacer arm;

- the asymmetric carbons present in the formula (A) can have the R or S configuration,

as well as its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

2. Compound according to claim 1, characterized in that

- R₁ and R₂ are as defined in claim 1;

- X represents an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue, the two M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residues constituting the compounds of formula (A) in dimer form being identical or different.

3. Compound according to claim 1, characterized in that

- R₁ is as defined in claim 1;

- R₂ represents hydrogen, and

- X represents hydrogen.

4. Compound according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that

- R₁ is as defined in claim 1;

5 - R₂ represents hydrogen, and

- X represents an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which R₁ and R₂ are as defined above.

5. Compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that R₁ represents an alkyl group substituted by one or more substituents
10 chosen from: a C₁-C₅ alkyl group; an amino group; a COOR₃ group; a CONR₃R₄ group, R₃ and R₄ in the COOR₃ or CONR₃R₄ groups independently representing hydrogen, an optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, an aryl, a heteroaryl or an alkylaryl group; a C₁-C₂₀ ketone and a C₁-C₂₀ aldehyde.

6. Compound according to claims 1 or 3, characterized in that R₁
15 represents -(CH₂)₂-, R₂ is hydrogen and X is hydrogen.

7. Compound according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 4, characterized in that R₁ represents -(CH₂)₂-, R₂ is hydrogen and X is an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which R₁ = -(CH₂)₂- and R₂ is hydrogen.

8. Compound according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 4, characterized in
20 that

- R₁ represents a -CH(COOR₃)-CH₂- group in which R₃ represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,

- R₂ represents hydrogen,

- X represents hydrogen or an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which
25 R₁ = -CH(COOR₃)-CH₂- in which R₃ is as defined above and R₂ is hydrogen.

9. Compound according to one of claims 1 or 5, characterized in that

- R₁ represents a -CH(CONR₃R₄)-CH₂- group in which R₃ and R₄ represent hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,

- R₂ represents hydrogen,

30 - X represents hydrogen or an M6G-N(R₂)R₁-S- residue in which R₁ = -CH(CONR₃R₄)-CH₂- in which R₃ and R₄ are as defined above and R₂ is hydrogen.

10. Compound according to claims 1 or 5, characterized in that

- R_1 represents a $-\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$ group in which R_3 represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,

- R_2 represents hydrogen

5 - X represents hydrogen or an $\text{M6G-N}(R_2)R_1\text{-S-}$ residue in which $R_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$ in which R_3 is as defined above and R_2 is hydrogen.

11. Compound according to claims 1 or 5, characterized in that

10 - R_1 represents a $-\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NHCH}(R_5)-\text{CH}_2-$ group, in which R_3 represents hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl and R_5 represents $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOR}_3$,

- R_2 represents hydrogen

15 - X represents hydrogen or an $\text{M6G-N}(R_2)R_1\text{-S-}$ residue in which $R_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NHCH}(R_5)-\text{CH}_2-$ in which R_3 and R_5 are as defined above and R_2 represents hydrogen.

12. Compound according to claim 1, characterized in that

- R_1 represents a $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$ group,

- R_2 represents hydrogen

20 - X represents a polymer linked to the rest of the entity by a spacer arm of formula $-\text{S}-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$ in which $n = 0$ to 4 and said polymer is a polyethylene glycol of molecular weight (Mw) greater than or equal to 10000.

13. Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (A) according to any one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that it comprises the stages consisting of reacting morphine-6-glucuronide with a compound of formula (III) $\text{NHR}_2\text{-R}_1\text{-S-S-R}_1\text{-NHR}_2$, in which R_1 and R_2 are as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11, in the presence of a coupling agent, and reducing the disulphide bridge using a reducing agent if necessary.

14. Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (A) according to any one of claims 1 to 11, in which $X = \text{H}$, characterized in that it comprises 30 the stages consisting of reacting morphine-6-glucuronide with a compound of formula (IV) $\text{NHR}_2\text{-R}_1\text{-SH}$, in which R_1 and R_2 are as defined in any one of claims 1 to 12, in the presence of a coupling agent and reducing *in situ* the oxidation by-products using a reducing agent.

15. Method according to one of claims 13 or 14, characterized in that the coupling agent is chosen from benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris-pyrrolidino-phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (PyBOP), dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), DCC combined with hydroxybenzotriazole (DCC/HOBT) and
5 diisopropylcarbodiimide combined with HOBT (DIPCDI/HOBT).

16. Method according to one of claims 13 or 14, characterized in that the reducing agent is chosen from tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine, triphenylphosphine, tris(hydroxymethyl)-phosphine and dithiothreitol.

17. Pharmaceutical composition, characterized in that it contains a
10 compound of formula (A) according to any one of claims 1 to 12 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

18. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, characterized in that it is in a form which can be administered by parenteral route.

19. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, characterized in
15 that it is in the form of a preparation which can be injected by sub-cutaneous, intravenous or intramuscular route.

20. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, characterized in that it is in a form which can be administered by oral route.

21. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20, characterized in
20 that it has a sustained or controlled activity.

22. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 12 or a pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 17 to 21, for the production of a medicament intended for the treatment of pain.